

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 114

BY SENATOR JOHN SMITH

A RESOLUTION

To commend James A. Johnson, former Vernon Parish Assessor, upon the occasion of his retirement as assessor after nearly forty years of dedicated service in the assessor's office.

WHEREAS, in 2015, James Johnson, Vernon Parish Assessor, chose not to seek re-election to a fourth term as assessor thus ending his dedicated service to the people of the parish; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson began work at the assessor's office in the mid-1970s and his career was one of commitment and improving the office in order to better the service to the people of Vernon Parish; and

WHEREAS, James Johnson worked at the assessor's office under the two assessors who preceded his own service, Lucille G. Cavanaugh and Eugene W. Cavanaugh, and following Mr. Cavanaugh stepping down, Johnson was elected to that post three times; and

WHEREAS, directly prior to his being selected as assessor, Mr. Johnson served as deputy assessor; and

WHEREAS, Johnson considered it an honor and a privilege to serve the citizens of Vernon Parish and he was humbled by their trust in him to perform the duties of assessor without favoritism or prejudice; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure as assessor, James Johnson worked diligently to assist the people of his parish and he brought a broad range of improvements, particularly, technological advancements to the office; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson stated that he enjoyed serving the people of Vernon Parish and was gratified that he was elected to the office of assessor three times; and

WHEREAS, a parish tax assessor is responsible for appraising real estate, which is determining the market value of the property, and assessing a tax on those properties within the parish, and Mr. Johnson maintained a good rapport with the citizens whose properties he assessed; and

WHEREAS, James Johnson was a member of the Louisiana Assessors' Association and he served on the board of trustees of the assessors' retirement fund and on the association's retirement fund benefit plan committee; and

WHEREAS, James Johnson graduated from Pitkin High School, where he and his wife both attended, and studied at Louisiana State University before returning to his Vernon Parish roots to become a public servant; and

WHEREAS, James and his wife, Landa, raised their son and are now greatly enjoying spending time with their two granddaughters, Hadlee Kae and Jaylee Mae Johnson; and

WHEREAS, a feeling of satisfaction with having served the people of his parish well and his desire to spend more time with his family and grandchildren were the primary motivating factors for James A. Johnson's decision to end his career as Vernon Parish Assessor.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend James A. Johnson, former Vernon Parish Assessor, upon the occasion of his retirement as assessor after nearly forty years of dedicated service.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to James A. Johnson.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE